

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/995,757

Examiner

HELEN SHIBRU

Applicant(s)

NINOMIYA, MASAKO

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 06/30/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-17,19,21 and 22.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 04/25/2006
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 8/1-3/06
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ken Fields on August 1st, 2nd and 3rd 2006.

Claims 1 and 15 are amended as follows.

Claim 1, An optical disc which is readable by a reproduction apparatus, the reproduction apparatus being operable to perform random access to moving image data in accordance with reproduction section information, the optical-disc storing:

the moving image data;

at least two pieces of the reproduction section information, wherein the two pieces of the reproduction information that specify a preceding reproduction section and a subsequent reproduction section on of the moving image data;

a duplicated part which is obtained, for a modification purpose, by duplicating an end vicinity of the preceding reproduction section and a beginning vicinity of the subsequent reproduction section; and

a flag, which is recognizable by the reproduction apparatus and if set to be on, indicates reproduction of a part before the end before the end vicinity and a part after the beginning vicinity via the duplicated part, and if set to be off, indicates sequential reproduction of the

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preceding reproduction section and the subsequent reproduction section without via using the duplicated part.

Claim 15, An optical disc which is readable by a reproduction apparatus, the reproduction apparatus being operable to perform random access to moving image data in accordance with reproduction section information- the optical disc storing:

at least one piece of the moving image data;

a duplicated part obtained by duplicating a part of the moving image data; and

a flag,

wherein the duplicated part is to be modified, and

wherein the flag, which is recognizable by the reproduction apparatus, if set to be on, indicates reproduction of before and after the moving image data via the duplicated part, and if set to be off, indicates reproduction of the moving image data without via using the duplicated part.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The present invention is directed to a recording apparatus that performs an operation to specify a preceding reproduction section and a subsequent reproduction section from VOB through an interactive screen. Independent claims 1, 8, and 13 identify the uniquely distinct features "a duplicated part which is obtained, for a modification purpose, by duplicating an end vicinity of the preceding reproduction section and a beginning vicinity of subsequent reproduction section; and a flag, if set to be on, indicates reproduction of a part before the end vicinity and a part after the beginning vicinity via the duplicated part, and if set to be off, indicates sequential

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reproduction of the preceding reproduction section and the subsequent reproduction section without via the duplicated part.” The closest prior art, Kajimoto (EP 0 847 055 A2) discloses managing a series of available storage areas of the storage medium, either singularly or in combination, fail to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious.

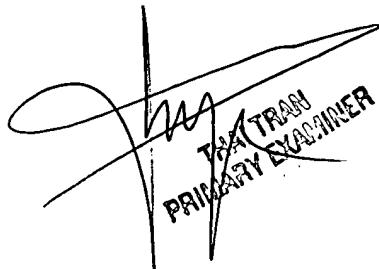
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HELEN SHIBRU whose telephone number is (571) 272-7329. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8:30AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, THAI Q. TRAN can be reached on (571) 272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



THAI Q. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER